

Counterpoints: Exploring Canadian Issues

Chapter 13 - The Environment: Our Challenge and Responsibilities

Guiding Questions:

- ★ How has the international community responded to ozone depletion?
- ★ How has the international community responded to climate change?
- ★ What are the principal international agreements concerning the environment?
- ★ How are resources, the environment, and human populations interconnected?
- ★ What is sustainable development?
- ★ What are the environmental threats to water resources and how might they be addressed?
- ★ Should Canada treat water as a resource to be traded?
- ★ How is human activity affecting the atmosphere and the ozone layer?
- ★ What is global warming?
- ★ How can we offset environmental threats at the local, national, and international levels?



Why Care About the Environment (p. 424) and Article: “More than 15,000 scientists from 184 countries issue 'warning to humanity'”

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/technology/15000-scientists-warning-to-humanity-1.4395767>

1. Summarize the warning issued to humanity by the World Scientists in both 1992 and 2017.
2. According to William Ripple, what concerns and trends about the environment have been observed over the past 25 years? Summarize what each one means. (Total of 8)

3. Summarize the role the middle class plays on the environment.
4. Explain what the article means according by following statement: the earth has “entered its sixth mass extinction event”.



Population Growth and Sustainability (p. 425)

1. Define “**carrying capacity**”.
2. Summarize the effects of a booming population growth.
3. Describe the cause and effect relationship between the need for agricultural land and deforestation.



Sustainable Development (p.428)

1. Define “**sustainable development**”.
2. Summarize the proposals that came out of the Earth Summit of 1992.
3. Describe some of the problems and efforts to resolve sustainability issues in the following areas:

Farming	Forestry

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4. Summarize the **Protected Areas Strategy**.

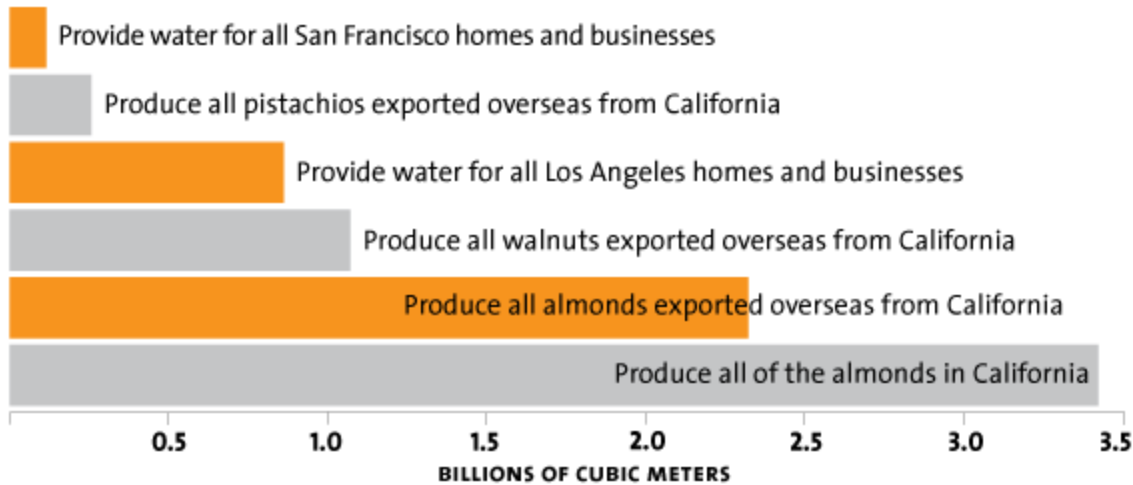


Water: The Indispensable Resource (p. 432), Article: “Canadians rank among world’s top water hogs”
<http://www.vancouversun.com/Canadians+rank+among+world+water+hogs/11274891/story.html>, and
Article: “This is how much water Canadians waste”
<https://globalnews.ca/news/3016754/this-is-how-much-water-canadians-waste/>

1. Differentiate between the different types of freshwater.
2. Summarize the demands made on water supply.
3. Give at least 5 interesting facts about Metro Vancouver water usage from the two articles.

4. Describe how pollution and crop irrigation threaten water supply.

How much water per year does it take to...



Sources: California Department of Water Resources (city usage); Primex International Trading Corporation, Mekonnen and Hoekstra, 2011 (pistachios); California Walnut Board; California Almond Board and David Goldhamer (almonds)

Mother Jones

5. Research and record at least 5 different ways we can manage water better. In your opinion, which is the best option and why?



Change Is in the Air (p.437)

1. Define/ explain the following terms:
 - a. **Troposphere:**
 - b. **Greenhouse gases (GHG):**

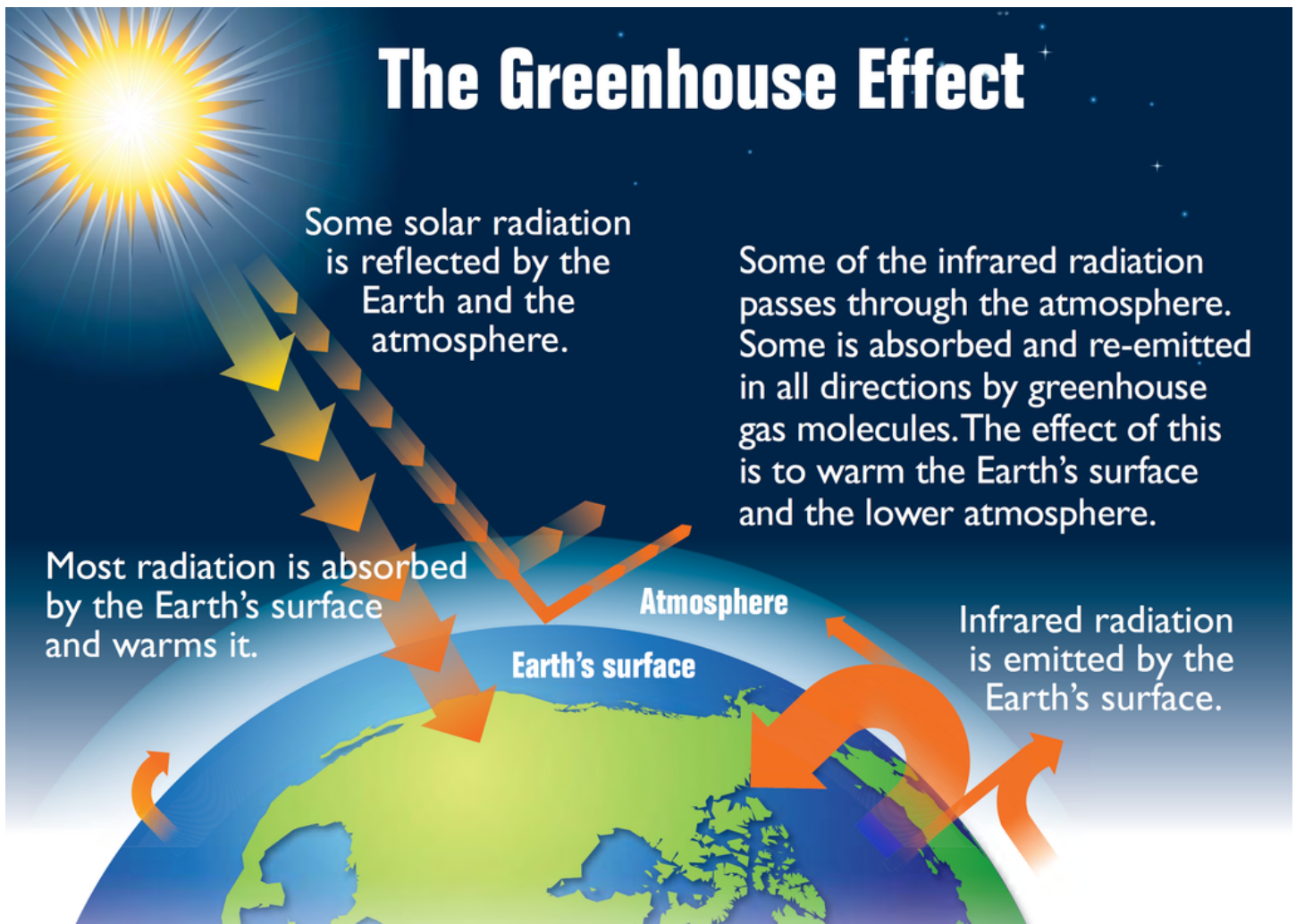
c. **Ultraviolet radiation:**

d. **Ozone layer:**

e. **Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs):**

f. **Montreal Protocol 1987 and 1997:**

2. Summarize Canada's contributions to greenhouse gas emissions.



3. Outline the greenhouse effect in your own words.

4. Fill in the following organizer on the effects of global warming.

	Globally	In Canada
Forests		
Agriculture		
Water		



Taking Action on Greenhouse Gas Emissions (p.444) and Article: “Everything you need to know about the Paris climate summit and UN talks”

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2015/jun/02/everything-you-need-to-know-about-the-paris-climate-summit-and-un-talks>

1. Outline the targets set out by the Kyoto Protocol.
2. Outline the targets set out by the Paris Climate Summit. Why was it updated from the Kyoto protocol.

Note: *US President Trump withdrew US support from the Paris Climate Summit upon election.*

3. List the pros and cons of at least 3 sustainable energy sources.
4. Research and summarize the controversy behind the following issues relevant to British Columbia.
 - a. LNG:
 - b. Site C Dam:

5. Summarize the efforts of First Nations communities to use alternative energy sources in Canada.



Doing Our Part for the Environment (p. 449)

1. Summarize at least 10 strategies we as Canadians can make to improve environmental outcomes (does not have to come from the textbook).



Generate a list of 3 potential research questions for your upcoming in-class essay. To be approved by Ms. Mihic.